



CRIME PREVENTION TIPS FOR SENIORS: IN YOUR HOME AND ON THE STREET

Many seniors are fearful for their safety and feel that they are more vulnerable of becoming a victim. Your best defense is your common sense!

Crime prevention should be everyone's responsibility, not just that of the police. By incorporating these common sense tips into your daily life, you'll make yourself safer and reduce the chance of being victimized.

Remember, Predictable is Preventable!

In Your Home...

Leave spare keys with a neighbour, not hidden outside.

Do not use chain locks...they can be easily broken with force.

Have a door viewer installed.

Get in the habit of answering your door while it remains closed and locked. Talk to the visitor through the door. Don't worry about being rude; your safety is more important than your manners.

If a stranger comes to your door asking to use your phone, do not let them in (even if it's a woman). Offer to make the phone call while the stranger remains outside.

Never open your door to someone you don't know! Don't trust the identification of volunteers, sales or service people until you have verified it with their respective companies.

Make sure you have good quality locks installed on your doors and windows. More importantly, make sure you use them!

On The Street...

Be alert when you're out and about. Know where police stations or after hours stores are located. Know the phone number for the O.P.P. - 1-888-310-1122 – not just 9-1-1.

When possible, go out with a friend or family member instead of alone. Plan your route and let others know what it is. Call after arriving to let others know you're safe.

Avoid carrying large amounts of cash or valuable/sentimental items. Use debit cards when possible, but be careful with your PIN for your bank cards. Don't carry a purse; use waist belts instead.

If you must carry a purse, don't leave it unattended in shopping carts or on store counters.

If someone tries to grab your purse, don't resist. Remember, your purse and its' contents can be replaced, you can't be.



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